



# **PSC NEWS**

## **Missouri Public Service Commission**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **PSC ORDERS REDUCTION IN NATURAL GAS RATES FOR AQUILA NETWORKS-L&P CUSTOMERS**

JEFFERSON CITY—To reflect estimated changes in the wholesale cost of natural gas for the upcoming summer season, Aquila, Inc. d/b/a Aquila Networks-L&P (formerly St. Joseph Light & Power) customers will see natural gas rates drop by approximately 17% under a filing which will take effect on April 17, 2006.

A residential customer currently pays approximately \$0.86 per Ccf (per 100 cubic feet of gas). Under this filing, the rate will drop to approximately \$0.71 per Ccf, a decrease of approximately \$0.15 per Ccf.

Approximately 65% to 75% of a customer's natural gas bill reflects the cost of natural gas from wholesale suppliers. The wholesale cost of natural gas (the cost your local natural gas company must pay to its suppliers for natural gas) is not regulated by the Missouri Public Service Commission. The wellhead cost of natural gas is unregulated and is primarily driven by supply, demand and the weather. The Missouri Public Service Commission does conduct an annual regulatory review to ensure that regulated natural gas companies make prudent decisions in securing natural gas supplies for their customers.

Aquila, Inc. d/b/a Aquila Networks-L&P serves approximately 6,125 natural gas customers in the Missouri counties of Andrew, Atchison, Nodaway and Holt.